SHAUN STEVEN STRUBLE + SINA GRACE

NUMBER FIVE

THE LI'L DEPRESSED BOY™

image

SUPPOSED TO BE THERE, TOO

Recor

Boo

Kitche
Stuf

Books

Struble

BEFORE I GO THERE IS SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU A.S.A.P.
REMEMBER HOW I SAID I'D HAVE TO SWITCH SCHOOLS TO ACTUALLY STUDY ASTROPHYSICS WELL I JUST GOT THIS IN THE MAIL AND...
I'M TRANSFERRING TO TECH NEXT MONTH.
I'M MOVING TO LUBBOCK.

DEPRESSEDBOY.COM

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

"MOVE WITH YOUR LOVER"

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PEDESTRIAN RAGE BY STRUBLE & FENOGLIO
HOW I MET LDB BY GRACE

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I LOVE YOU.

WHATWHERE DIDTHATCOMEFROM WHYDOYOUSAY THATWHYNOW?

BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY DON'T GO.

BECAUSE I WANTED TO SAY IT WHILE I STILL COULD.

BECAUSE I *MEAN* IT.

I LOVE YOU.

THE LAST THING I WANT TO DO IS STAND IN THE WAY OF YOUR DREAMS.

YOU KNOW, LUBBOCK ISN'T REALLY THAT FAR AWAY.

IT'S ONLY ABOUT TWO HOURS.

I COULD EASILY COME BACK ON WEEKENDS.

AND YOU COULD COME OUT AND VISIT ME.

DO YOU WANT TO STAY HERE TONIGHT?

PLEASE.

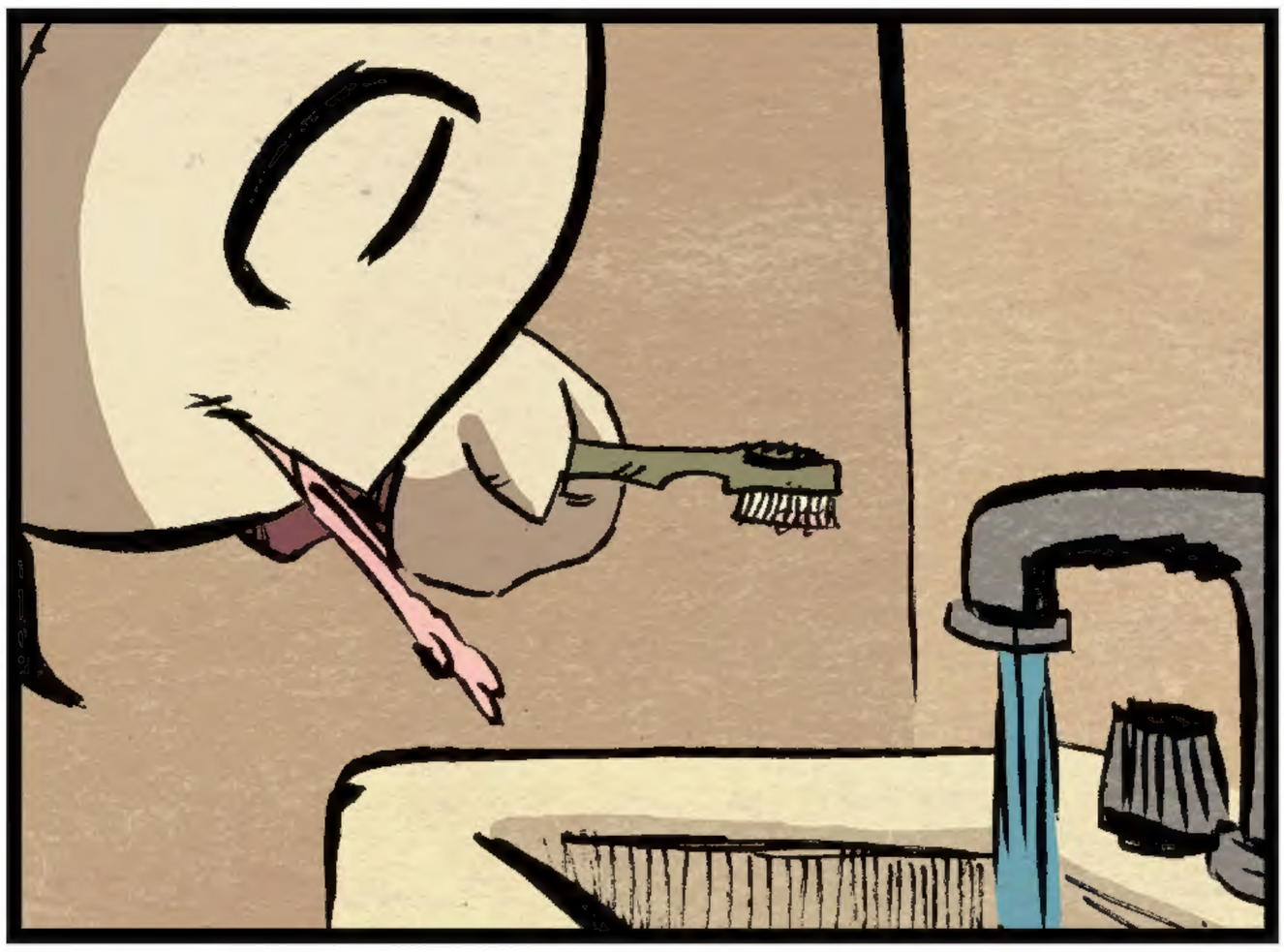
OH!

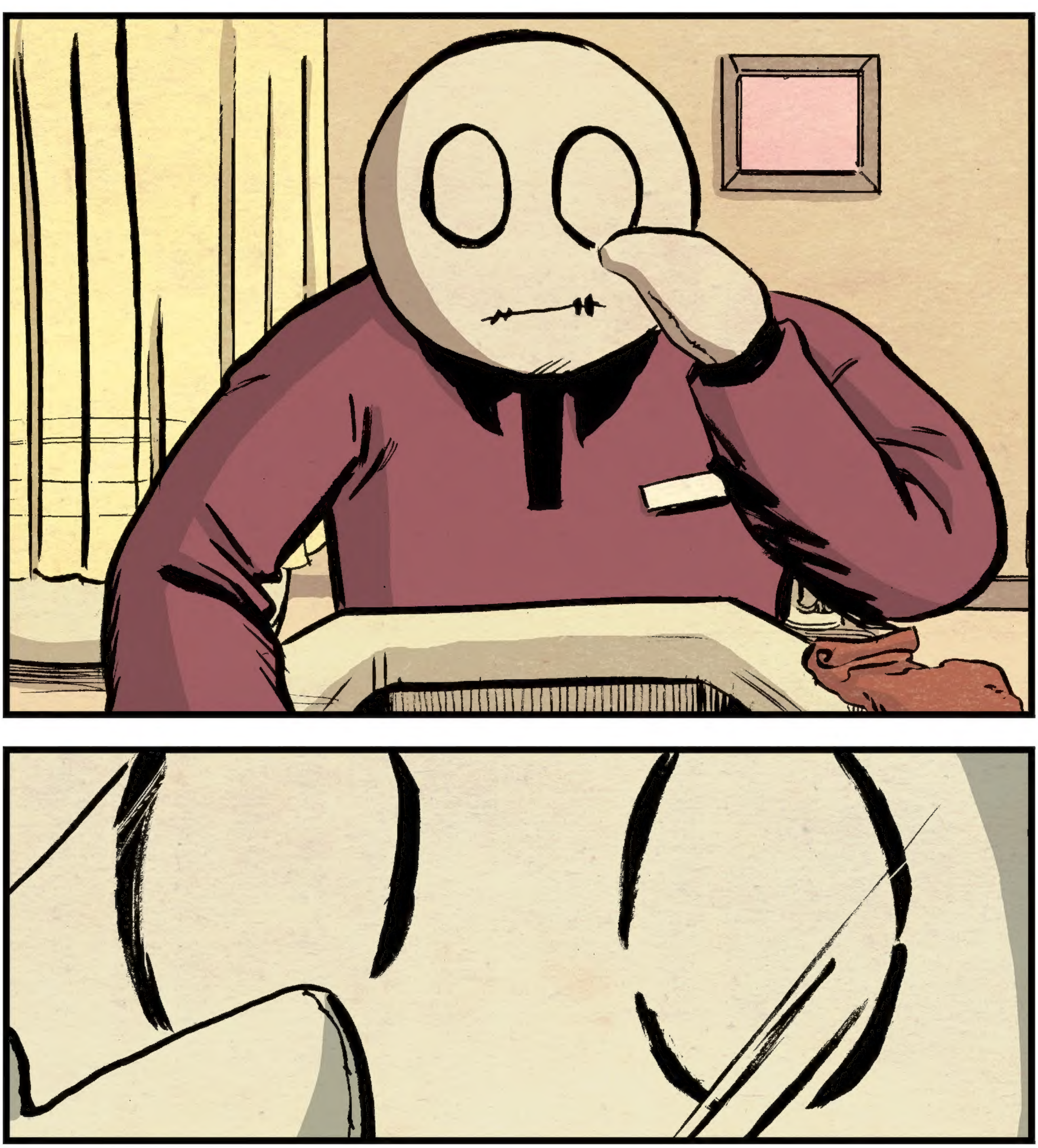
YOU'RE UP.

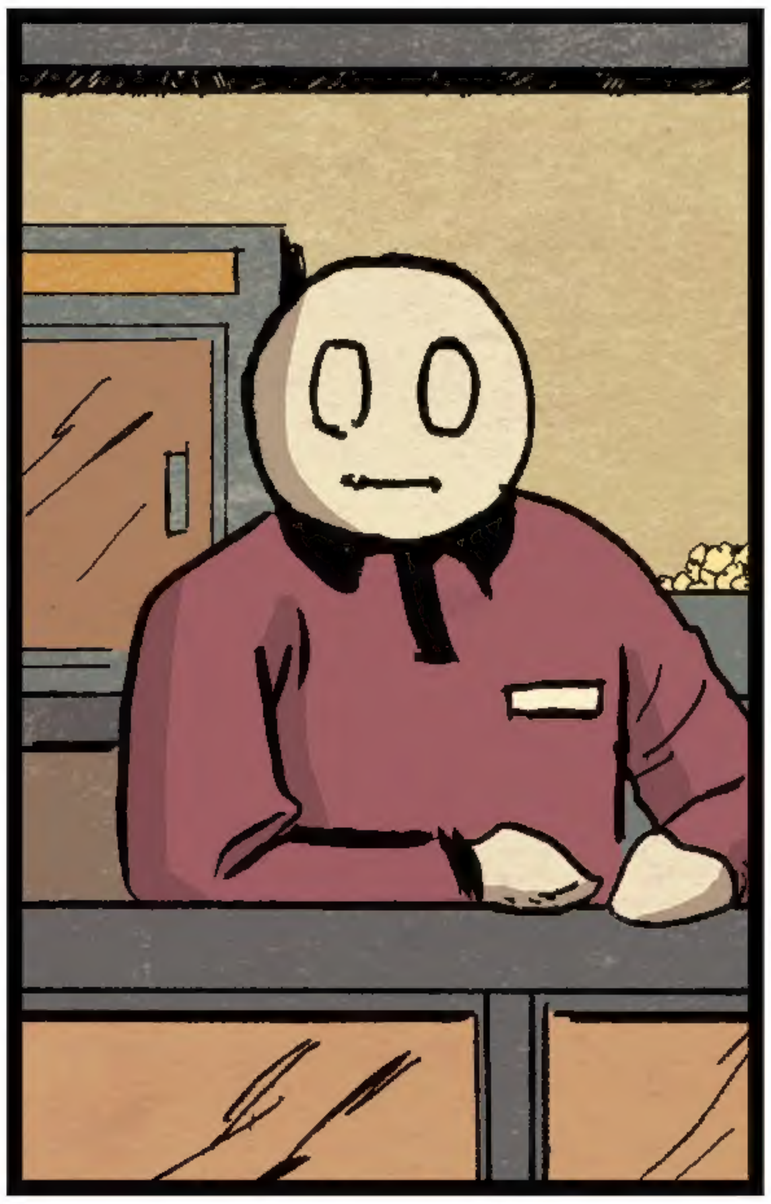
I NEEDED TO GET A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.

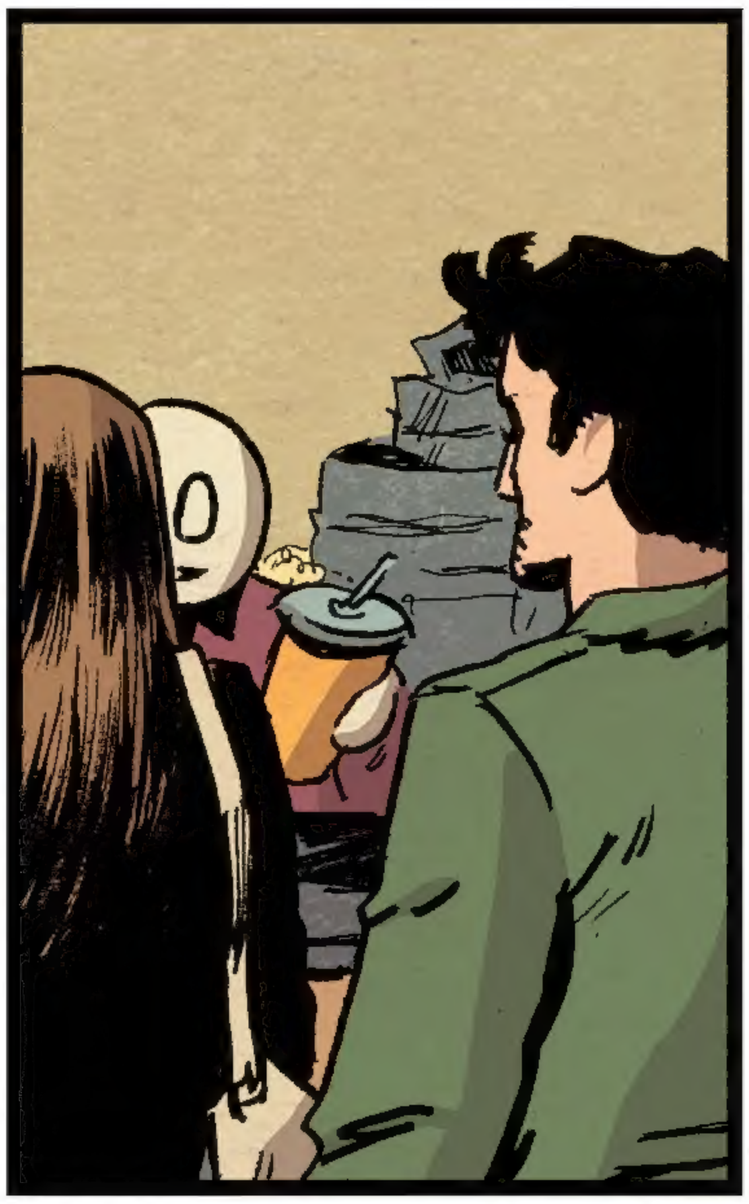
I WAS HOPING I'D GET BACK BEFORE YOU WOKE.

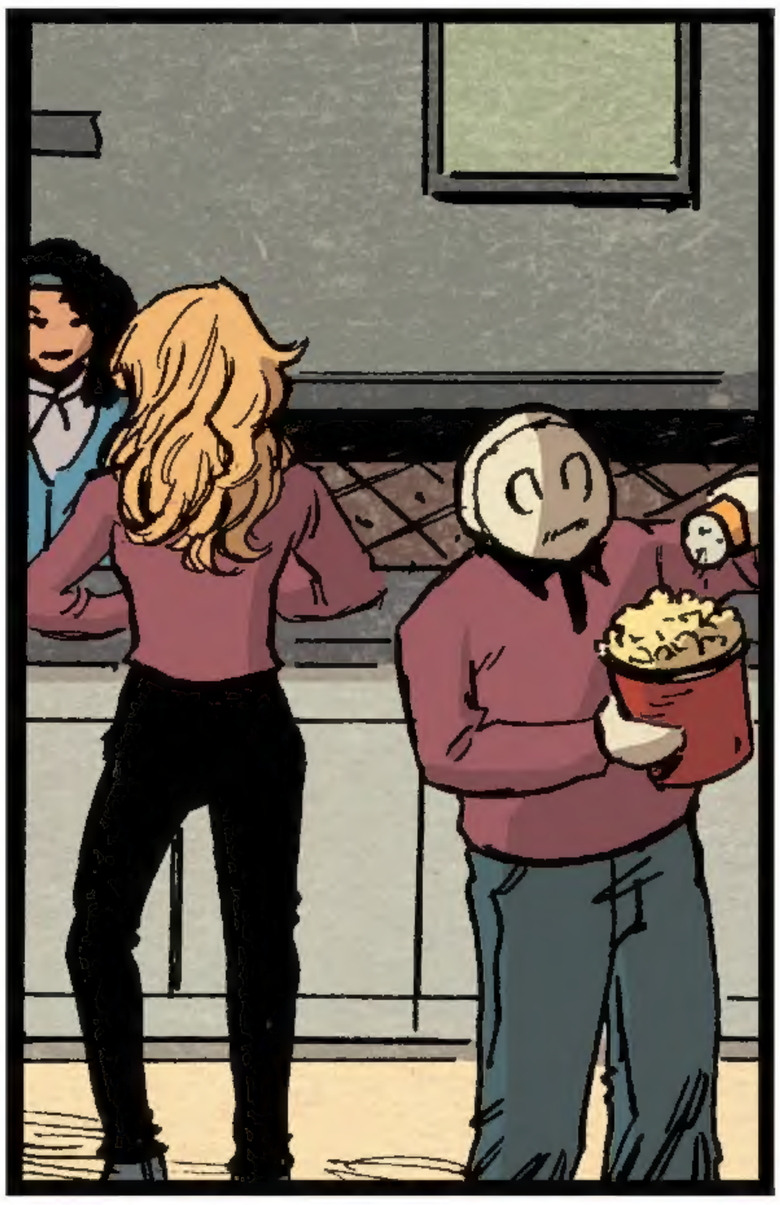
I BROUGHT BREAKFAST.











NOTICE:
ALL EMPLOYEES MUST WASH HANDS!

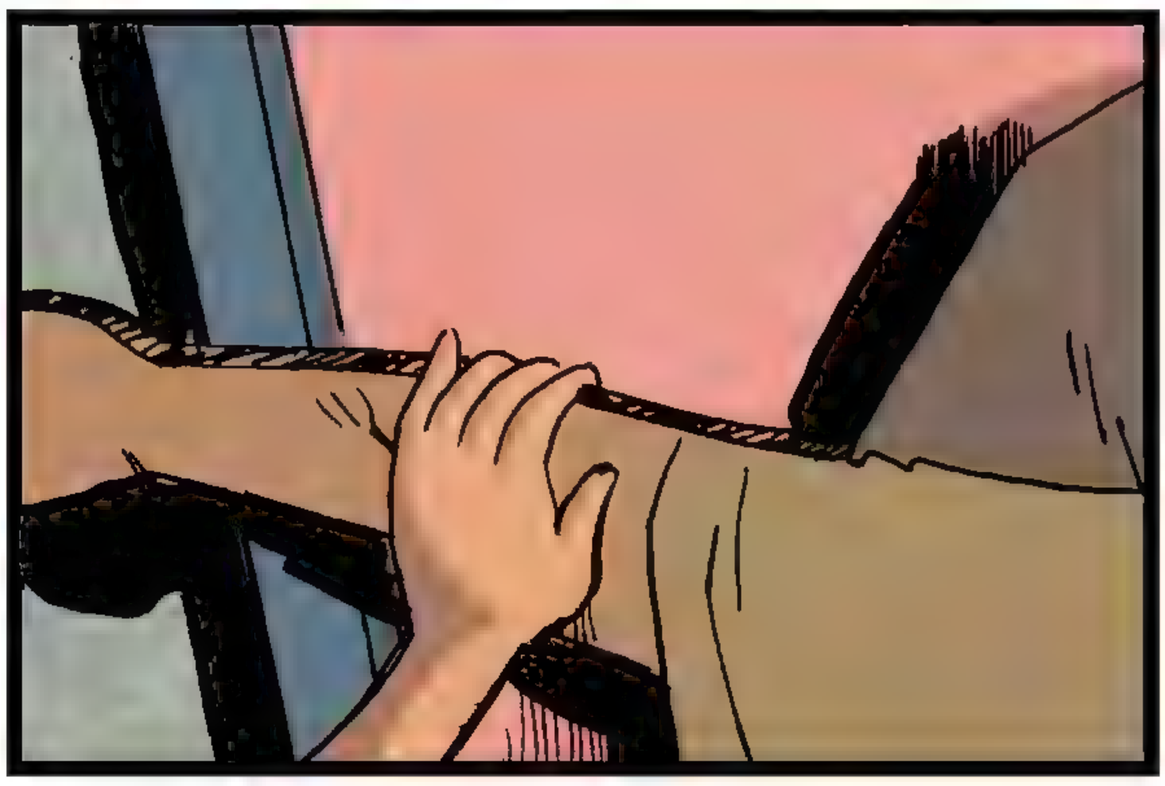
SCHEDULE REQUESTS

THIS IS
NOTICE

GOOD EVENING, MR. BRANGET.

WE NEED TO TALK...

Saga



AHHHHH!

ARE YOU OKAY?
MY ARM HURTS.

ARE YOUR PARENTS HERE?

Y-YES.

WHERE ARE THEY?

WHAT MOVIE ARE YOU SEEING?

'VENGERS.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU, KID?

THAT'S THEATRE PROPERTY -- IF YOU DAMAGED IT...

TOBY!

HE'S HURT.

GO FIND HIS PARENTS.

THEY'RE IN THEATRE 4.

NOW!

THANK YOU FOR LOOKING OUT FOR OUR SON.

HE WAS SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE RESTROOM AND COME RIGHT BACK.

WOULD YOU LIKE FOR US TO CALL HIM AN AMBULANCE?

NO.

HE'LL BE ALRIGHT.

OOM

WHEEP!

HOW'D CARL REACT TO THE NEWS?

HE WAS SAD TO SEE ME GO, BUT HE UNDERSTOOD.

HE WISHED ME LUCK ON MY FUTURE.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

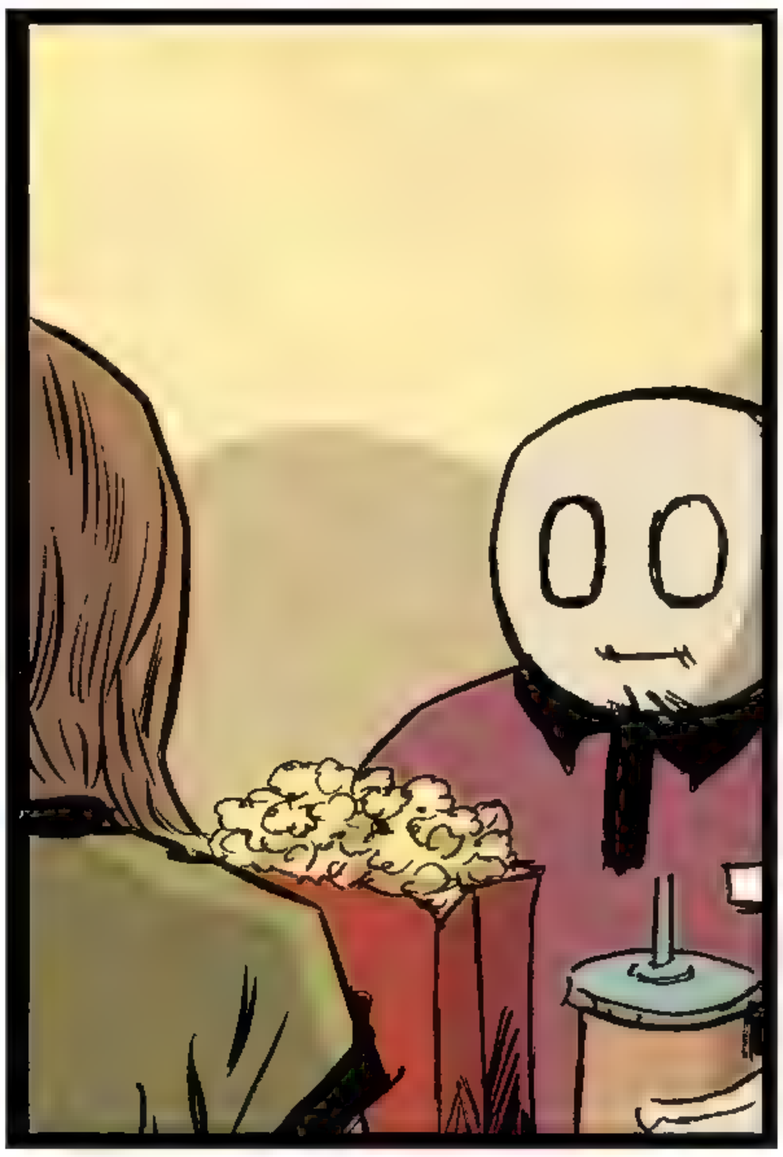
DID YOU TURN IN *YOUR* TWO WEEKS NOTICE?

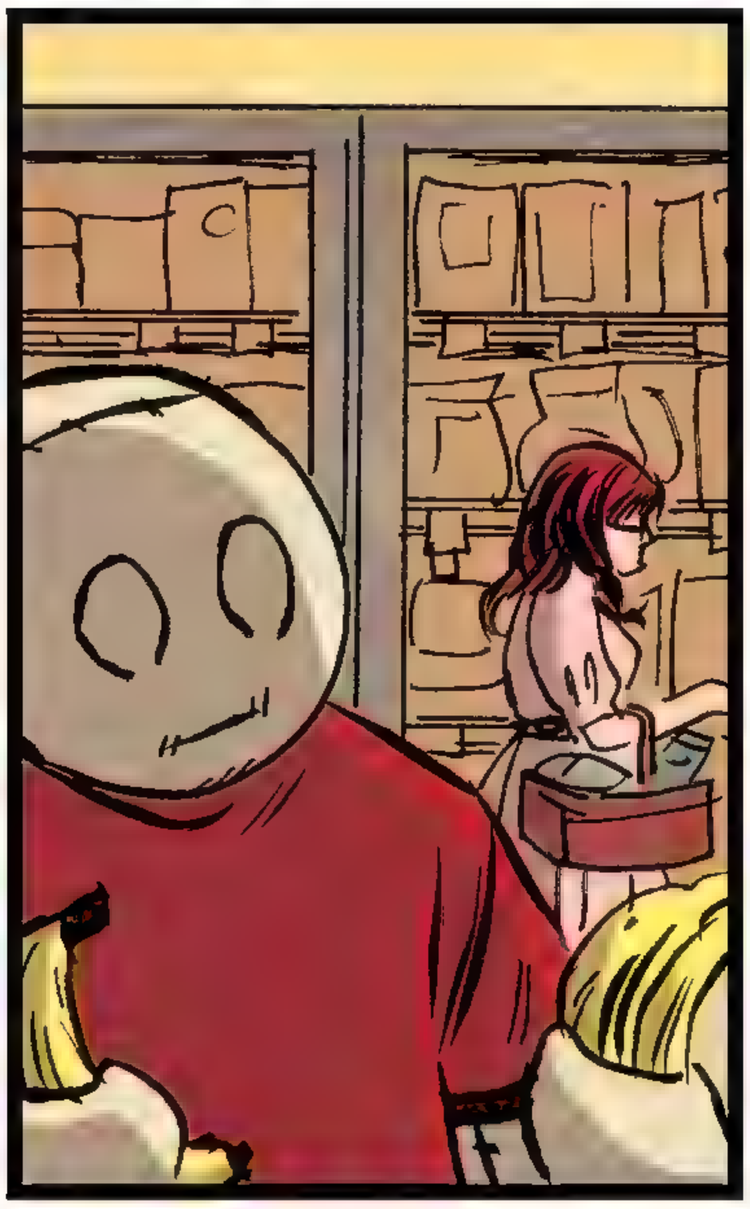
NAH.

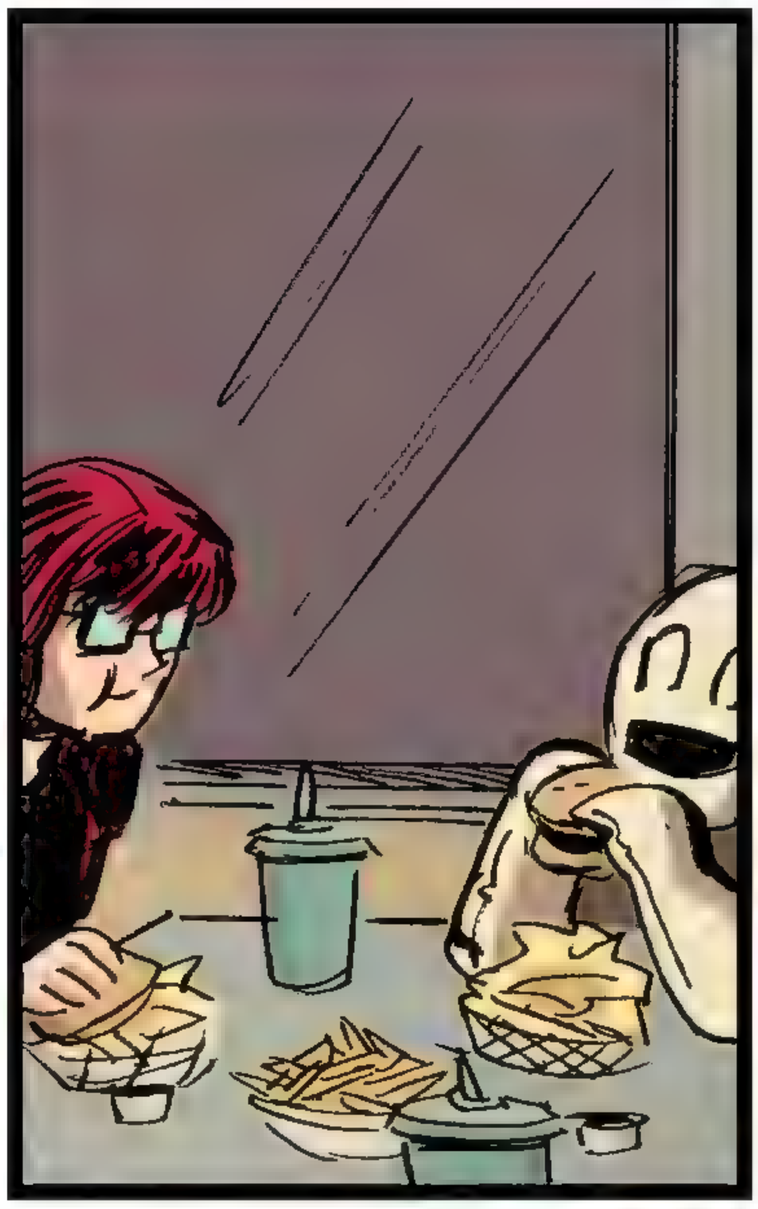
YOU WERE RIGHT.

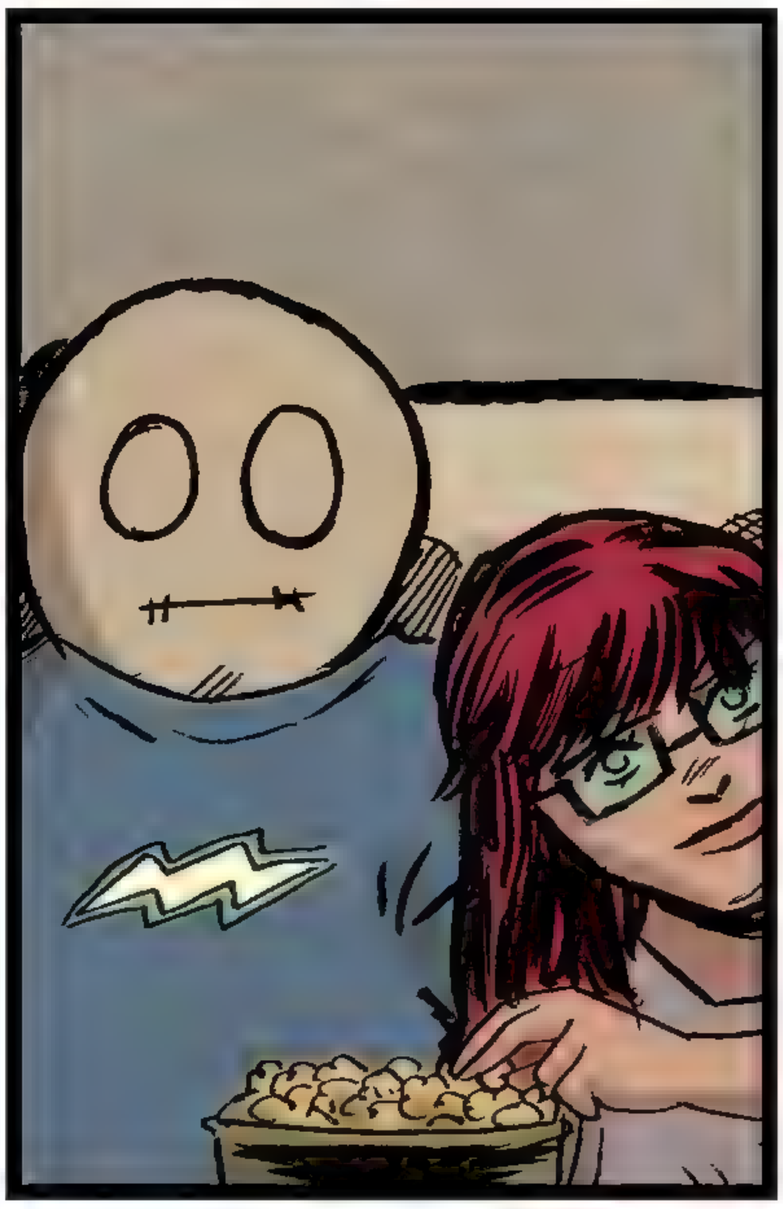
I NEED AN EXIT STRATEGY FIRST.

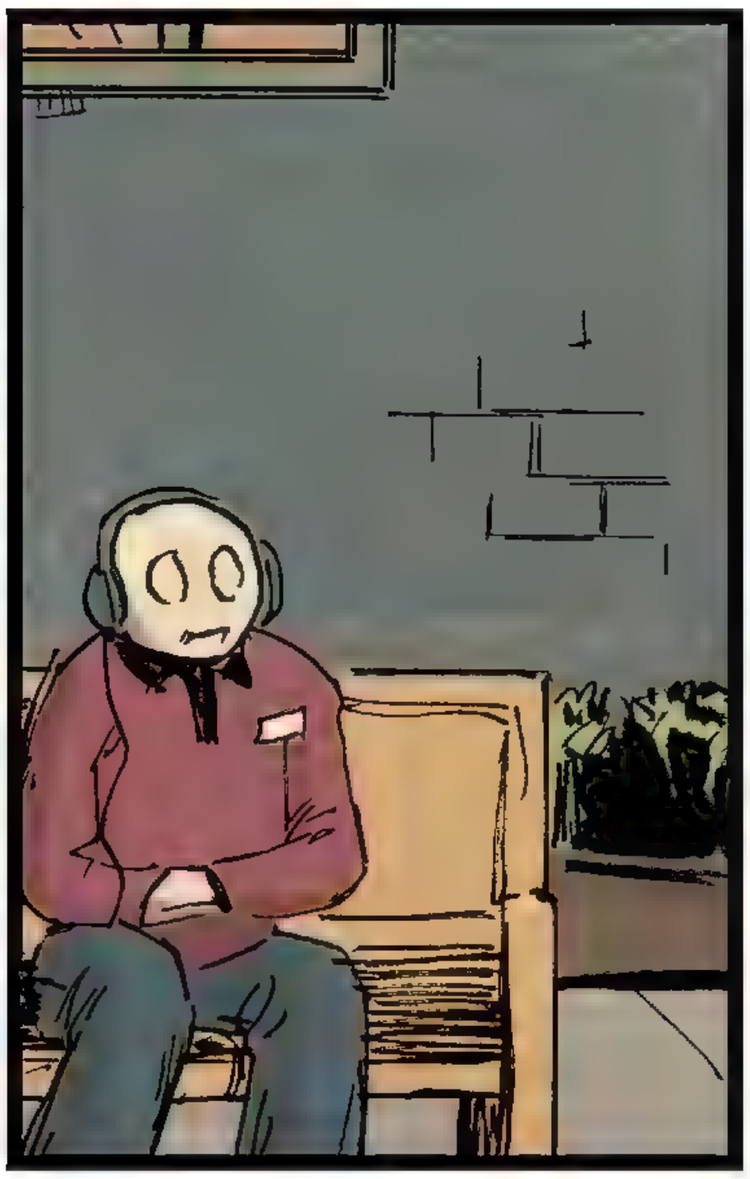
BESIDES, SOMEONE NEEDS TO STICK AROUND AND MAKE SURE TOBY DOESN'T ACTUALLY HURT SOMEBODY.

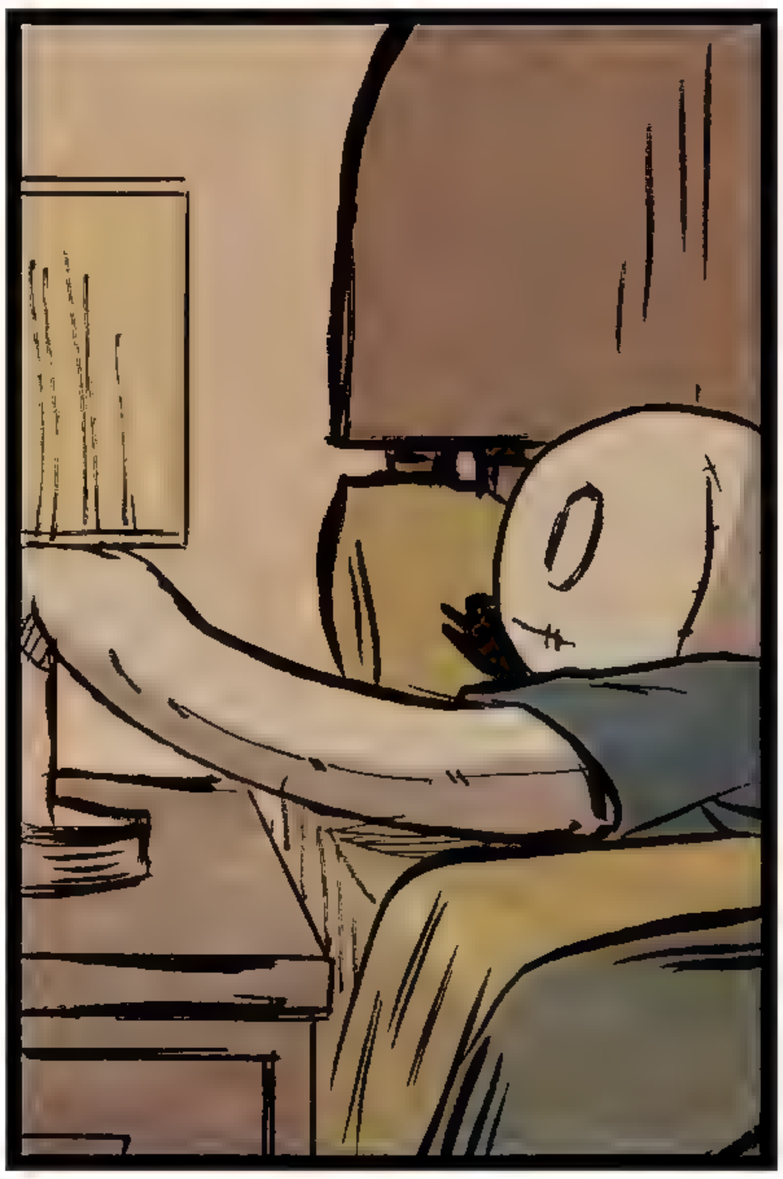












ARE YOU GETTING EXCITED?

RELIEVED, ACTUALLY.

glass ware

I HAVE BEEN TRAVELING IN THIS DIRECTION FOR SO LONG --

IT'S NICE TO FINALLY BE ARRIVING AT THE DESTINATION.

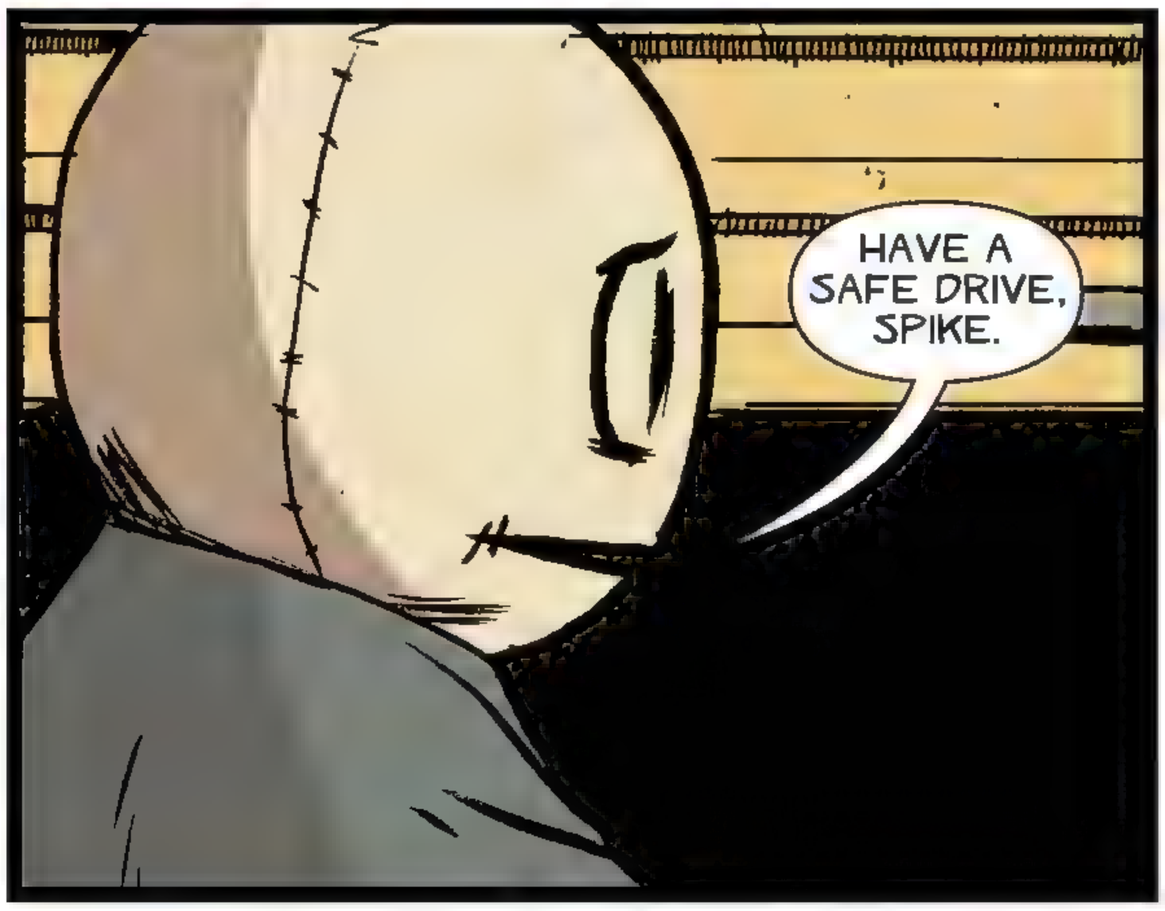
I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD PROBABLY BE SCARED.

BUT I'M REALLY FEELING VERY ZEN ABOUT IT.

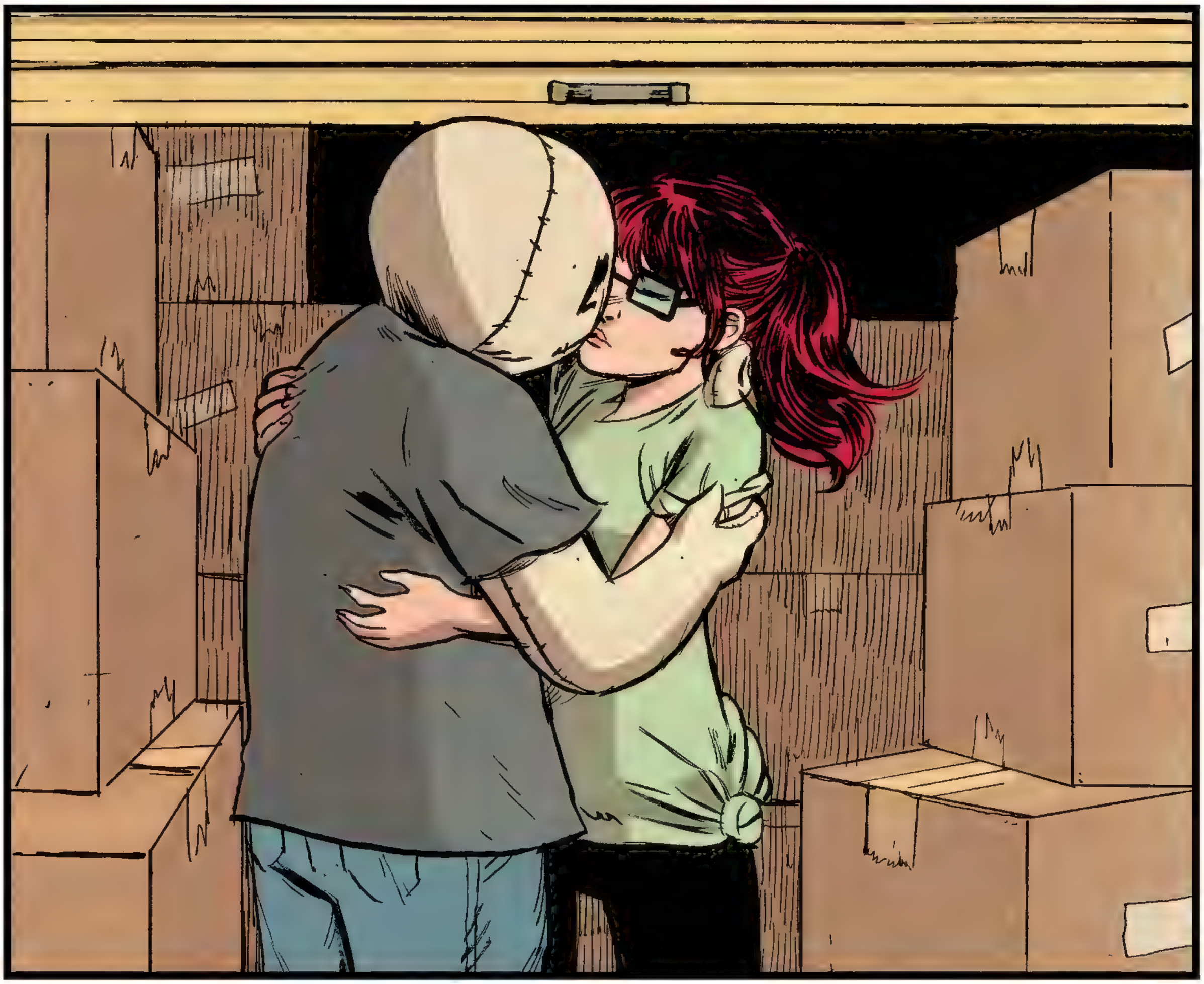
THAT'S GOOD.

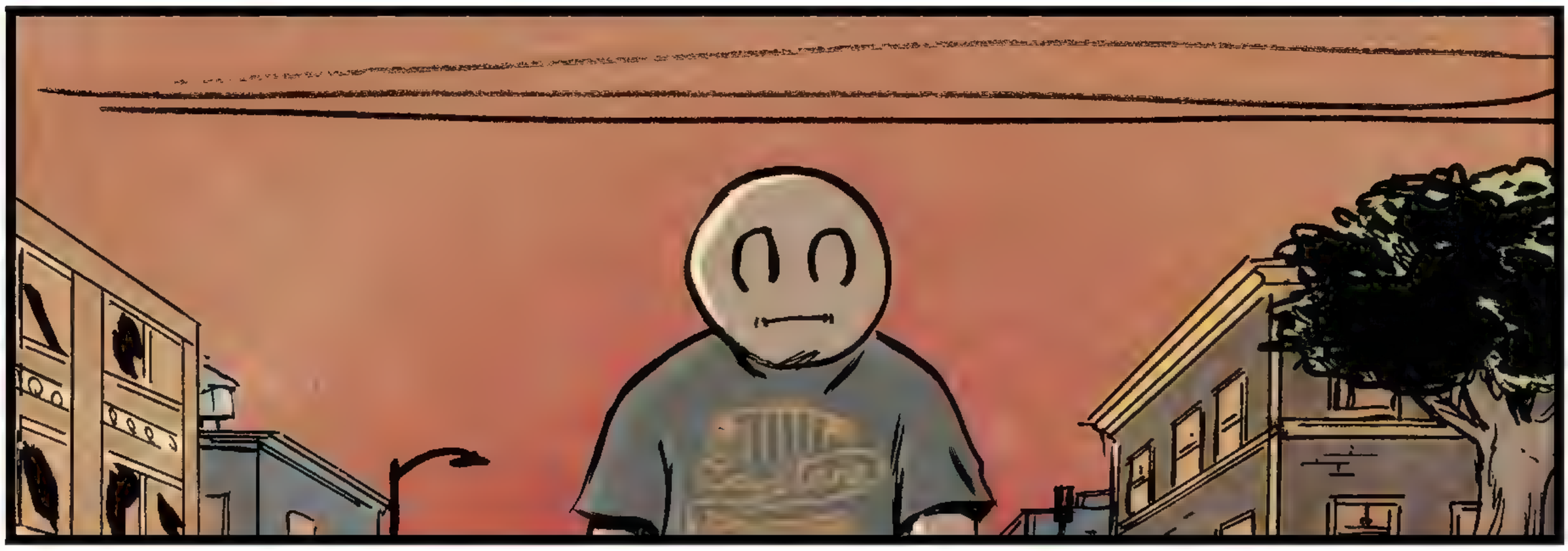
glassware

YEAH...


HAVE A SAFE DRIVE, SPIKE.

I LOVE YOU.





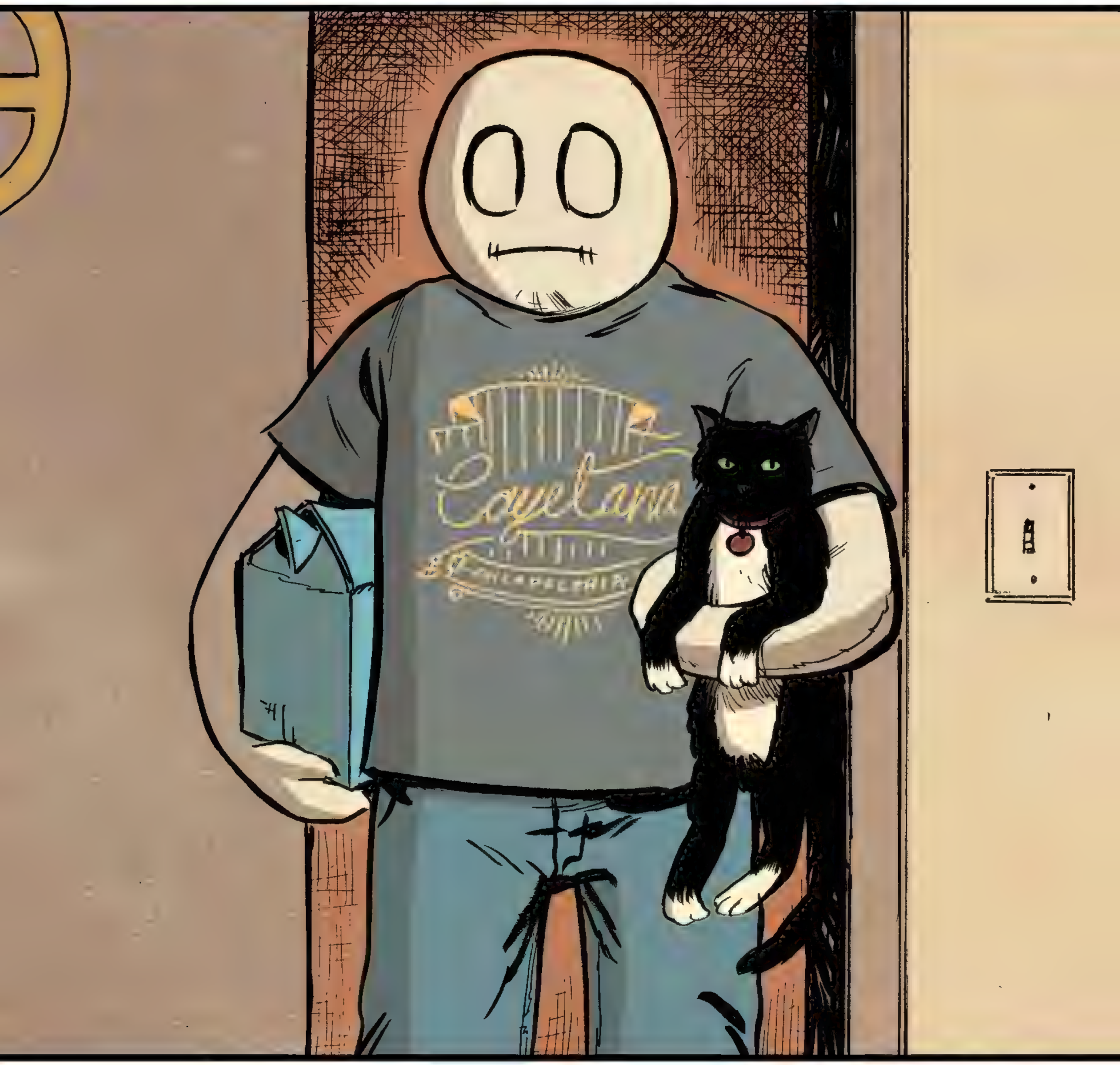
PLOP

KNOCK
KNOCK

HEY MISTER, YOU WANT A CAT?

YOUR NEIGHBOR TOOK OFF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND LEFT HIM.

I'D RATHER NOT TURN IT OVER TO ANIMAL CONTROL.


Capetana

SOMEHOW MORE THAN JUST SOUND.

BY MISTERS STRUBLE & GRACE

DEPRESSEDBOYCOMIC@GMAILCOM

And, as if we just said "Hello, again," only yesterday, it feels too soon that we're saying "BRB again."

Welcome to the final issue of LDB: Supposed to be There Too.

This one was bittersweet to make. We were thrilled to wrap the story in a way that shows LDB growing up and becoming a more mature partner/ worker/ dude, but it meant packing Spike's boxes and letting her move towards her own dreams.

LDB is about real life, and in the real world, a good-bye is never as finite as a hug and a kiss in front of a storage unit. As you've seen with Jazz in this arc, Spike's role will only develop and evolve in upcoming story arcs.

Shaun and Crew,

Issue 4 was so amazing, I had to reread it a couple of times. The whole restaurant scene was both hilarious and sad. But that's life, isn't it? I think that the Jazz character is brilliantly written. In early issues we kinda rooted for LDB to get with her, but as in real life, the reader is slowly shown that it would have been a bad idea. Jazz never changed really, we just get to see what kind of person she really is. She may be fun to hang out with at a concert or an arcade, but she is narcissistic enough to ruin someone's birthday party by making herself the center of attention. I'm glad LDB dodged that bullet. Anyway, thanks for a spectacular book. I look forward to every new issue.

Danny Dale Carroll
Short Fuse Studios

Thank you, Dale. Glad you're starting to see that Jazz was always a bad fit for LDB. Your words are too kind.

What songs would a LDB playlist contain?

Gustavo Torres Cuevas

We've actually been hiding a playlist in plain sight all along. On top of the music cues we include in the panels whenever LDB is listening to, we also name the volumes and the issues after songs. This series, those songs we're:

Vol. 5. Supposed To Be There Too -- Mike Park
#1. Always Something In My Blindspot -- Vic Ruggiero
#2. I Raise My Fist -- Randy
#3. Brilliant Dancer -- Lemuria
#4. It's Not My Birthday -- They Might Be Giants
#5. Move With Your Lover -- Ghostland Observatory

What will be LDB's goal in life, besides wanting to be loved?

Eladio Garro

Like most twenty-somethings, LDB hasn't quite figured out what he wants to do with his life. Right now, his only goal is not about being loved -- it's about finding happiness for himself. Right now, he thinks he might find that on the path to love, but who knows what he'll think 3 or 4 series down the line.

Will there ever be a omnibus?

Will LDB ever meet Tomoko from Watamote?

Is LDB a fan of Louie?

What do you guys think of the manga Watamote? I ask because both LDB and Wata share similar premises of lonley protagonists seeking love.

Finally, What comics does LDB enjoy?

I hope this hiatus is short because this comic rocks!

Thanks!
Keith Renderman

Wow! That's a lot of questions, Keith. Thank you so much. Let's see what our answers are.
We would love to do an omnibus collection, but right now there isn't enough demand for it.
LDB will probably not meet Tomoko. We've yet to do a crossover. We are waiting until we can find one that would be a good fit.
Does LDB like Louie? As in Louis C.K.? But of course.
To be absolutely honest, we've never read Watamote. We had to look up on Wikipedia to learn what little info we know about the book.
LDB reads a lot of comics. His recent favorites are Walking Dead, Rat Queens and Shaft. He used to be a real big Green Lantern reader, but he stopped buying for a few months and now when he tries to pick it back up he's hopelessly lost -- but he's determined to catch back up.

What albums will LDB be listening to while he's on hiatus?

Miguel Zayas

The albums that are currently in high rotation at LDB's house are: Cayetana -- Nervous Like Me; Andrew Jackson Jihad -- Christmas Island; Sleater Kinney -- No Cities To Love; Violent Femmes -- Happy New Year; and Waxahatchee -- Ivy Tripp. He's also looking forward to new releases from Dog Party, Pet Symmetry and Metric coming later this year.

If there was one thing you could have all of your readers do, what would it be?

Alan Vallee-Guerrero

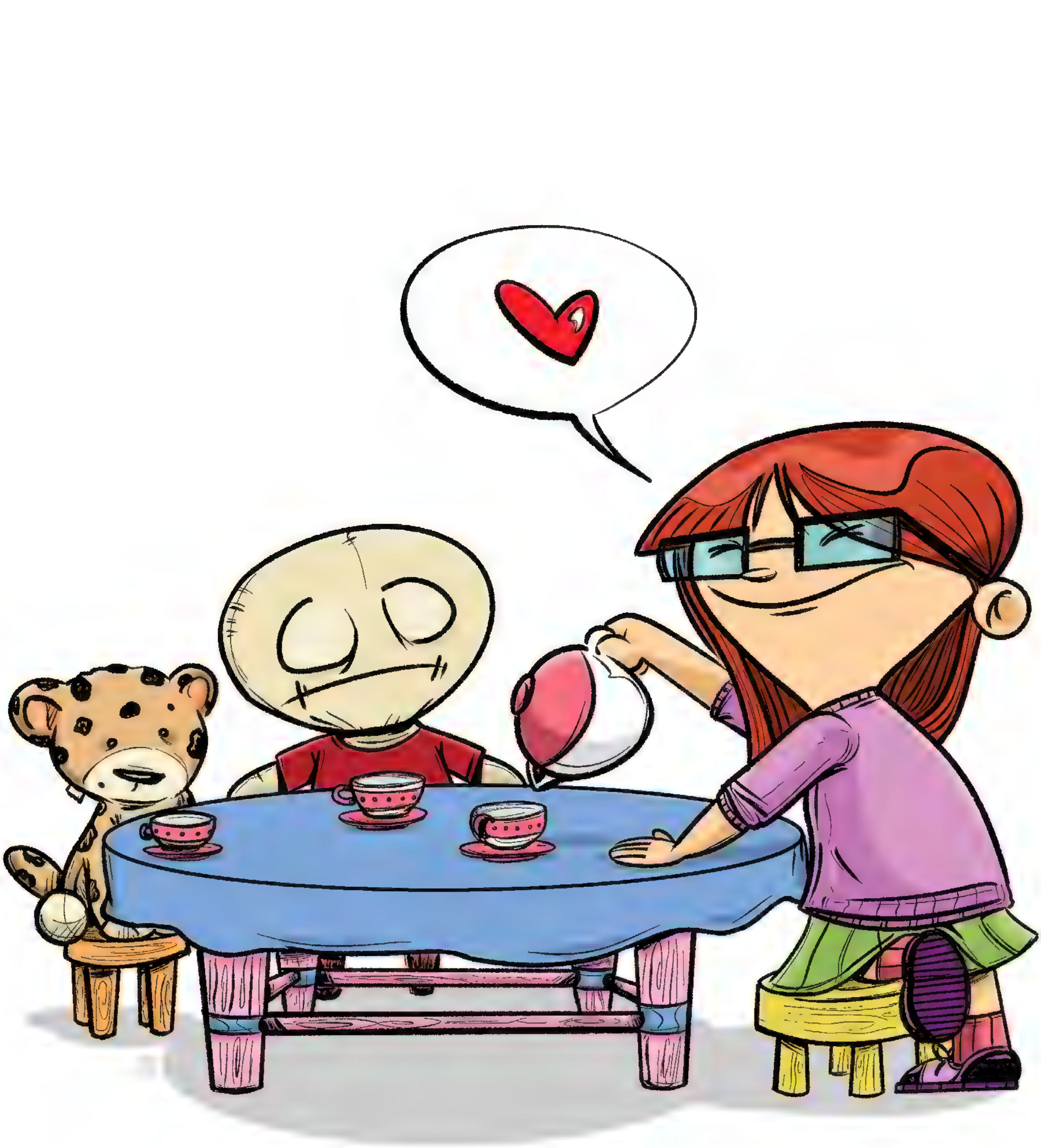
As cheesey as it sounds, find the things that make you happy in your life and embrace them. That's ultimately what LDB is about, and it's a good attitude to have in real life, too.

We'll be back soon enough with another story arc. In the meantime, there's business happening between mysterious people... all of them whispering about ways to bring Li'l Depressed Boy to more eyes. We're letting those conversations happen while we draft the next arc. When we come back, it'll only be bigger and better.

Thanks for the unending support and love.
We'll meet again,
Struble & Sina

JD SHAW, INK BY JASON FREEMAN, TRIUMPH TATTOO

The Li'l Depressed Boy
P.O. Box 835091
Richardson, TX



HUH?

COLA

SHAUN STEVEN STRUBLE IN...

PEDESTRIAN RAGE!

ARTWORK BY CHRIS FENOGLIO

WHAT THE ~~FUCK~~ IS WRONG WITH YOU?

LOOK WHERE YOU ARE GOING!

I'M WALKING HERE!

IT STARTED SMALL.

JUST A SLIGHT IRRITATION AT DRIVERS.

I'D WATCH THEM DRIVE POORLY.

EXCLAIM TO MYSELF THAT I KNOW MORE ABOUT SAFE DRIVING THAN THEY DID.

THEY SPEED THROUGH PARKING LOTS.

FINALLY, WHEN A DRIVER HIT ME WITH THEIR CAR, IRRITATION HAD TURNED TO SEETHING HOT RAGE.

THEY IGNORE SIGNS.

THEY CUT IN FRONT OF YOU WHEN YOU HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY.

FOR THE RECORD, HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I GOT HIT...

STRUBLE SMASH!

I ENDED UP HAVING TO HUG THE OLD LADY DRIVING THE CAR TO CALM HER DOWN ENOUGH THAT SHE WOULDN'T RUN AWAY.

SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN A LITTLE MORE ***CONFRONTATIONAL.***

EXCUSE ME, SIR.

YOU MAY NOT BE AWARE, BUT EVEN IF YOU'RE IN THE CAR IT STILL COUNTS AS BLOCKING THE FIRE LANE.

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO MOVE YOUR VEHICLE.

WHO SAYS?

JUST MOVE YOUR [redacted] CAR!

SLOW THE [redacted] DOWN!

Cola

I'VE BEEN FANTASIZING LATELY ABOUT MORE DIRECT CONFRONTATIONS.

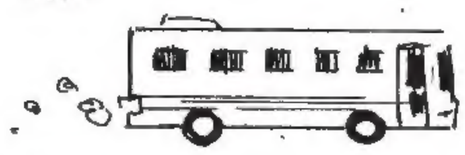
I KEEP GETTING ANGRIER AND ANGRIER.

ALL I KNOW IS, THE NEXT PERSON TO HIT ME WITH THEIR CAR WILL NEED A TRIP TO THE HOSPITAL, TOO.

how I met LDB...

KIDS, THE STORY BEGAN WHEN I MET MY FRIEND, NICK...

(I MET NICK AT COMIC-CON, THRU MY FRIEND AMBER)



NICK AND I BECAME CLOSE BUDS AFTER A LONG BUS RIDE TO LOS ANGELES AFTER THE CONVENTION.

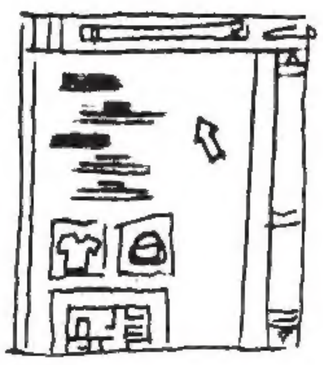
AT THE TIME, I WAS MAKING A ZINE THAT I SOLD AT MY LOCAL COMIC SHOP. WHEN IT GOT PICKED UP, I NEEDED SOMEONE TO COLOR MY COVERS...

(MEANWHILE, LIVEJOURNAL WAS A THING)

NICK RECOMMENDED A FRIEND HE HAD MET THRU LIVEJOURNAL AND HAD COLORED FOR MARVEL-- SOME GUY NAMED STRUBLE.

OVER THE SIX BOOKS WITH PICTURES COVERS, STRUBLE AND I CREATED A DEAL WHERE WE WOULD TRADE: ONE FREE COVER OF COLORS FOR ONE PAGE OF ART FOR HIS WEB-SERIES, THE LI'L DEPRESSED BOY.

FROM HIS MYSPACE PHOTOS, STRUBLE WAS A DAPPER AND SERIOUS DUDE. I WAS WORKING WITH A PRO!!!



STRUBLE RAN THINGS SO PROFESSIONALLY FOR THE ARTISTS CONTRIBUTING TO THE THEN-ANTHOLOGY-STYLE SERIES.

FULL SCRIPTS, REFERENCE, LAYOUTS... HE KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING!

I REMEMBER THINKING, "THIS IS IT!" AT THAT MOMENT, I FELT LIKE EVERYTHING WAS COMING TOGETHER, AND THAT MY CAREER WAS GOOD-TO-GO.

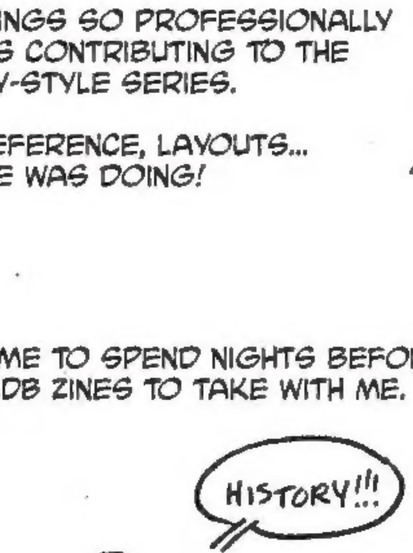
IT FELT AWESOME TO SPEND NIGHTS BEFORE CONS MAKING LDB ZINES TO TAKE WITH ME.

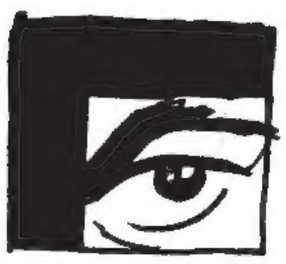
I WASN'T SATISFIED DOING A STRIP HERE AND A STRIP THERE. I BEGGED STRUBLE TO GIVE ME A STORY WITH A LOVE INTEREST, AND HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE A LONGER COMMITMENT. I ACCEPTED. ENTER:

WE PRINTED A DEMO FIRST ISSUE TO TAKE AROUND...

... AND GOT REJECTED BY SOME FOLKS.

LATER, I GOT A GIG EDITING COMICS...





WE FINALLY MET AT THE MECCA OF ALL NERD MEET-CUTES: SAN DIEGO COMIC-CON

'TWAS PRETTY UNEVENTFUL, BUT COOL TO MEET THE DUDE AFTER YEARS OF WORKING VIA E-MAIL AND TEXTING.

WHICH HELPED OPEN A DOOR AT IMAGE...

THE REST OF THE STORY IS PRETTY SELF-EXPLANATORY! A DECADE LATER, AND WE'RE STILL VIBING!

THE LI'L DEPRESSED BOY AND SPIKE ROGERS
WILL RETURN IN...

LIFE WON'T WAIT

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